

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

Ballroom

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Opening Keynote Panel – Managing water resources in urban NE

This panel will introduce the overall theme of the conference by providing a look at the history of water management in Eastern Nebraska and a look to the future as the Lincoln and Omaha metro areas continue to grow. Speakers will cover the historical and indigenous uses of the Missouri River, the current state of the City of Lincoln, and the current state of the City of Omaha.

Renee Sans Souci: With a degree in education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and being an Umoⁿhoⁿ woman and practitioner of traditional healing, Renee Sans Souci combines her life experiences with a learning process that helps learners to engage in their own cultural identities and languages. Renee has been a Teaching Artist with the Lied Center for Performing Arts since 2009. She has presented at numerous conferences and workshops on various topics related to Native Science, History of Indian Education, Native languages, Poetry, and Sustainability.

Steve Owen: Steve is the Superintendent of Water Production and Treatment at the Lincoln Water System. He has previously worked as the Water Distribution Manager and the Water Production Manager. Previous to working in the Water Division, Steve managed the City of Lincoln's Solid Waste Operations. Steve is a licensed civil engineer and a State of Nebraska Grade 1 water operator.

Jim Theiler: Assistant Director, City of Omaha Public Works

Doug Whitfield: Water Operator, Metropolitan Utilities District